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HOEVEN RAISES LEVEL OF STATEWIDE SECURITY

BISMARCK, N.D. – Gov. John Hoeven today issued an order raising emergency personnel and law enforcement officials around North Dakota to a heightened state of alert. The move came in response to a request to the nation's governors by Director of the Federal Office of Homeland Security Tom Ridge.

Ridge issued his request in response to credible information at the federal level relating to possible terrorist activity over the next seven to 10 days.

As a result of Gov. Hoeven's directive, the North Dakota National Guard, Highway Patrol, Division of Emergency Management and local emergency personnel around the state will maintain a heightened state of vigilance until further orders from the governor.

All citizens are urged to remain calm but alert. "We should all be maintaining a bit of extra vigilance in response to Director Ridge's request," Hoeven said.

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